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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/721,686

Examiner

Chih-Cheng Glen Kao

Applicant(s)

KOTIAN ET AL.

Art Unit

2882

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 4/5/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19, 21-29 and 32-36.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with David Arnold on June 8, 2006.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 9, line 16; insert - -in response to the complete given movement repetitively carried out- - after "refreshed complete 3D model".

In claim 22, last line; insert - -in response to the given movement repeated during the given time- - after "sliding window".

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 1-19, 21-29, and 32-36 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

2. Regarding claim 1, prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest a radiographic imaging method including driving a mobile support completely along a given movement with respect to means for supporting an object, the given movement defined by a sequence of movements that captures a sequence of 2D images, and driving the mobile support so that it carries out the

Art Unit: 2882

complete given movement repetitively to form a periodically refreshed complete 3D model of the object, in combination with all the limitations in the claim. Claims 2-8, 34, and 36 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

3. Regarding claim 9, prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest a radiographic imaging device including means for processing capable of reconstituting and presenting a 3D model of an imaged region of an object, starting from a sequence of 2D images acquired of the region by means for detection during a given movement of a mobile support with respect to means for supporting the object, the given movement defined by a sequence of movements that captures the sequence of 2D images, means for control being programmed to control driving movement of the mobile support so that it carries out the complete given movement repetitively, and the means for processing forming a periodically refreshed complete 3D model in response to the complete given movement repetitively carried out, in combination with all the limitations in the claim. Claims 10-19, 21, and 35 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

4. Regarding claim 22, prior art fails to disclose or fairly suggest a method including moving a support following a given movement with respect to means for support, the given movement defined by a sequence of movements that captures a sequence of 2D images, the given movement repeated during a given time, wherein the sequence of 2D images is continuously memorized or stored, on a sliding window, corresponding to a number of images necessary for reconstitution of a 3D model, and processing is applied for continuous reconstitution of the 3D model on this sliding window in response to the given movement

Art Unit: 2882

repeated during the given time, in combination with all the limitations in the claim. Claims 22-29, 32, and 33 are allowed by virtue of their dependency.

Conclusion

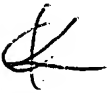
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chih-Cheng Glen Kao whose telephone number is (571) 272-2492. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F (9 am to 5 pm).


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ed Glick can be reached on (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2882

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



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EDWARD J. SLICK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER